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Diane M. Balderson



Assistant Commander for Contracts  
Naval Air Systems Command



In July 2007, Mrs. Diane Balderson became the Assistant Commander for Contracts, at the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR). In this capacity, Mrs. Balderson has responsibility for a 800 person organization performing business and contracting functions at Headquarters in Patuxent River, Md and 5 major sites nationwide. As the Executive Director for contracts, Mrs. Balderson oversees the execution of approximately \$26 Billion annually in contracting actions for over 140 acquisition programs and in support of 4000 aircraft. She has over 30 years of civilian service in multiple organizations.

Mrs. Balderson began her federal government career as a member of the Federal Junior Fellowship Program. In this program she worked for the Defense Fuel Supply Center during college procuring various types of fuel and related services. She continued there until 1983, when she joined the Naval Air Systems Command as a contract specialist, supporting various weapons and airframe programs.

From 1987 to 1988, Mrs. Balderson worked for Coopers and Lybrand as a senior management consultant performing various contractual functions for the Navy Industrial Improvement Project Office.

Mrs. Balderson worked for the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) from 1988 through 1992. She served as a Contracting Officer for a Complex Radar program and as the Head of the Information Management and Services Branch while employed with SPAWAR.

In November 1992, Mrs. Balderson was appointed to the Senior Executive Service at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). She spent four years as the Director of the Superfund/Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) Procurement Operations Department. In October 1996, Mrs. Balderson became the acting Deputy Director for EPA's Office of Acquisition Management where she oversaw the Agency's contracting operations and workforce.

Mrs. Balderson returned to NAVAIR as the Head of the Air, ASW, Assault and Special Missions Programs Contracts Department in September 1997. She continued in that position until April, 2005, when she assumed the Deputy Assistant Commander for Contracts position at NAVAIR.

Mrs. Balderson graduated from the University of Virginia with high honors, earning her bachelor's degree in 1981. She received a master's degree in contract acquisition and management and became a Certified Professional Contracts Manager (CPCM) in 1987.

She received the DON Superior Civil Service Award in 2000, the Commander's Award for People in 2001, and the DON Distinguished Civilian Service Award in 2005, and the Meritorious Presidential Rank Award in 2009.